

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Closer Military Collaboration between Satellites

1. Since the signing of the Balkan Pact between Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia, there have been reports that Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary will form an alliance of their own. Although nothing definite has resulted, there are indications that attempts have been made for closer collaboration between the three military staffs. Because a series of "friendship, collaboration, and mutual assistance" pacts signed in 1947 and 1948 between the Satellites and the USSR are in existence, it was not considered necessary for a new pact to be signed.
2. After the ratification of the Paris Agreements and the approval for the rearmament of Germany, there have been indications that the attempt on the part of the Satellites to form a new alliance has received renewed impetus, which is demonstrated by the following two recent developments in Bulgaria.
 - a. A building in Sofia, located near the Greek Legation, will house an agency called the "Service for International Military Relations" which is believed to be a joint Bulgarian, Rumanian and Hungarian military staff with higher Soviet military officers as coordinators; and
 - b. About the middle of February, a Soviet military mission, composed of approximately 30 Soviet officers representing all arms of military services and including one admiral, arrived in Sofia and since then has been visiting all Bulgarian provincial capitols and larger Bulgarian Army Headquarters.
3. There is a more active Soviet participation in the organization, methods and tactics of the Bulgarian Armed Forces.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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Mobilization of Reserves

4. A review of the military mobilization rosters, based on new and current personal data, has been underway since the end of January 1955. This is the first time such a review has been conducted in Bulgaria since the end of World War II.
5. The review includes twelve reserve classes, between 1908 and 1920, each member of which receives a personal summons. The examination of each reserve also serves the purpose of determining what new specialty or skill the reserve has acquired. Some of the questions asked at these examinations concern mechanical and technical skills, knowledge of foreign languages, degree of education, etc. Officers receive red mobilization orders and soldiers receive green orders, each of which contains a code symbol representing a mobilization area which will probably be revealed at a later date by a special announcement.
6. There are indications that by a rearrangement of the mobilization rosters certain reserves will be called toward the end of the spring of 1955 to participate in maneuvers designed to stress new tactics and combined operations between various service arms.
7. A change in the military identity cards of officer and non-officer personnel on active military duty is currently underway.

Underground Depots Near Dolni Chiflik and Sofia

8. A depot consisting of underground warehouses has been constructed in a forest in the vicinity of Dolni Chiflik. This depot is a Soviet-controlled logistics base to which military materiel and large quantities of gasoline are being moved. It is believed that an underground tunnel connecting the depot with the sea at Byala gulf is currently under construction.
9. an underground tunnel has been constructed from Boyana (N 42-39, E 23-16) to Sofia.

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Changes in Ruse

10. For the security of the Ruse-Giurgiu Bridge, an entire Bulgarian division, including 36 antiaircraft guns, has been assigned to Ruse. It is believed that this division is sufficient to withstand a parachute attack on the bridge.
11. Colonel Ivan Gerdzhirov, former Garrison Commander of Ruse, remains there as Commandant of the Officers School in Ruse.

Antiaircraft Defense Against Atomic Attack

12. Antiaircraft defense for the army has undergone basic changes to adapt it to defense against atomic bomb attack, in accordance with recommendations made by Soviet specialists on this subject. During the early days of April 1955, maneuvers were held in the vicinity of Sofia. Many jet planes participated in these maneuvers which placed special emphasis upon atomic bomb attack.
13. The armed forces are being trained to move through fields and mountainous areas without the aid of roads or highways.

General Air Force Information

14. The Bulgarian Air Force has increased by the addition of many jet planes, particularly MIG pursuit planes. An increasing number of Bulgarian pilots and airplane technicians are being sent to the USSR for training.
15. A concentration of airforce personnel in Sofia was recently observed.

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